

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE W.
DAVIS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. George W. Davis, a highly esteemed and beloved community leader and senior advocate who passed away on March 8 after a long illness. His legacy of service will endure for many generations.

Dr. Davis was a compassionate leader, always working on behalf of the San Francisco community. He worked tirelessly, as a gerontologist and community activist, to make life better for the underserved, especially elderly African Americans in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood.

For 32 years, Dr. Davis served as Executive Director of Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Center. He made it a welcoming gathering place and a compassionate environment where seniors could receive the therapeutic, social, recreational and health services that are so vital to their well-being. The programs and services provide the quality health care seniors need, as well as support their independence and preserve their dignity.

In 1999 Dr. Davis launched the first initiative in the United States to help formerly incarcerated seniors re-enter the community. His program provides transitional support and health care, including mental health and addiction counseling, and a myriad of services to ensure a successful new start.

Thirty years ago Dr. Davis founded the Black Cuisine Cook-Off, to be celebrated in conjunction with Black History Month every March. This soul food festival encourages a strong sense of community, bridges generations, and reminds us of the richness that is the diversity of our city and our nation. Dr. Davis attended his final cook-off this year, just a few days before he died.

Dr. Davis was sustained by his faith, and in 2000 Dr. Davis was ordained as a minister. He served as Associate Pastor of the Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church in San Francisco.

Above all, Dr. Davis loved his family. His wife and partner Cathy is the beneficiary of his extraordinary legacy and will carry on his work as Executive Director of the Multipurpose Center. I extend my deepest condolences to Cathy and to his brother Wesley Davis, his children LolaGerine Allen, William George Davis II, Tonya Davis, Kristy Davis, Matthew Davis, Teri Jordan and his grandchildren, nieces and nephews. I hope it is a comfort to his loved ones that many mourn his passing and are praying for them at this sad time.

HONORING DAVID WAYNE ROMICK
FOR HIS SERVICE

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent from Tucson, Arizona.

David Wayne Romick joined the U.S. Army on October 20, 1963, and was discharged on June 22, 1966. When discharged, he was awarded the Army's Good Conduct Medal (AGCM), but never received the award for his honorable service during the Vietnam War.

After waiting 44 years, David contacted my Tucson District office in December of last year for help in getting this award. At my urging, the U.S. Army reviewed David's records and concluded that he was not presented with the AGCM as per his DD-214. The Army admitted its error and on Friday, March 12, 2010, I had the honor and privilege of presenting this long overdue honor to David Romick.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Mr. Romick for his service to our country and the U.S. Army for correcting this error.

CELEBRATING THE FESTIVAL OF
HOLI

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the people of India and the Indian Diaspora as they celebrate Holi, the Festival of Colors.

Holi is a time when communities come together after a long winter to welcome the spring harvest. It is a visually stunning event with thousands of people tossing colored powders in the air and using dyed water in an atmosphere where culture, camaraderie and oneness are celebrated. In the evening, community bonfires are lit to signify triumph over divisiveness and negativity. It is one of the largest festivals in the world, with over one billion Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists participating throughout India, Nepal, the United States and many other nations.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, I would like to commend the Hindu American Foundation for educating Americans about Holi and the Hindu faith and join them in recognizing this year's Festival of Colors.

HONORING MR. STEPHEN KEEFE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to

the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Stephen Keefe. Mr. Keefe served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Chautauqua County Legislature, serving district 25.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Keefe served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Keefe is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to him today.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
POLICE OFFICER THOMAS F.
PATTON II

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Cleveland Heights Police Officer Thomas F. Patton II, who courageously and selflessly rose to the call to duty and made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our community.

Being a police officer was Officer Patton's childhood dream. He was a nine-year veteran of the Cleveland Heights Police Department, and served every minute on duty with excellence, expertise, unwavering dedication and integrity. Officer Patton's kind heart and good-natured personality easily drew others to him, and his loyalty to fellow police officers, to the citizens of Cleveland Heights, and to his family, reflected every day of his life.

Officer Patton's passion and energy for police work was unmistakable, yet his greatest joy in life centered around his family and friends. I extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends and fellow police officers. He was a loving partner to fiancé Tricia Sindelar, loving new father of seven-month-old daughter, Kayleigh Evelyn Patton; beloved son of State Senator Thomas F. Patton and the late Evelyn Patton; beloved brother to Shannon, Erin, Meghan, Brigid, and Kathleen; beloved brother-in-law of Duke, Michael and Anthony; adored grandson of Rita Patton and Joan Kessler; beloved uncle of Owen and Colin Southworth; much loved cousin and nephew; and beloved close friend to many.

Madam Speaker, and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Police Officer Thomas F. Patton—gone far too soon. Officer Patton's professional excellence, commitment to protecting others, unwavering kindness, generous spirit and love for his family and friends, will be forever honored and remembered by our entire community.

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